

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

Philip L. Hoffman, Biologist/Portfields Project Environmental Coordinator, Seattle District/Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



USACE: Supporting National Security, the Economy, and the Environment





PRIORITY #1: Support to the Global War on Terror

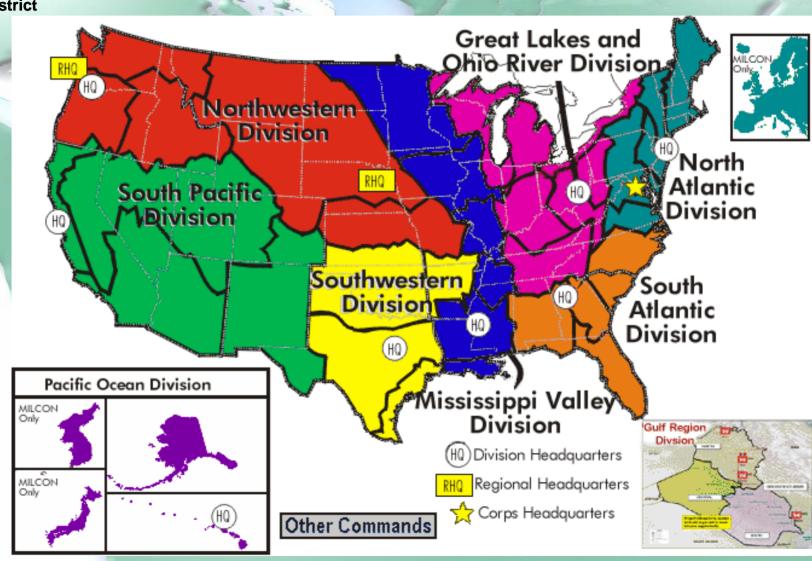
- War on Terror;
- Homeland Security (including FEMA);
- Water Resources mgmt (to include navigation, flood damage prevention & restoration)







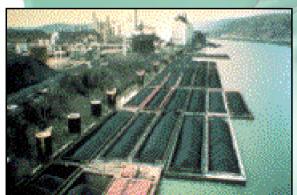






Implementation of Civil Works Strategic Plan









http://www.usace.army.mil/civilworks/hot_topics/cw_strat.pdf



View of Portfields Initiative

The Portfields Initiative is: an opportunity to leverage Corps authorities through interagency efforts aimed at sustainably revitalizing degraded or underutilized waterfront areas.

"America and the world share this common goal: we must foster economic growth in ways that protect our environment..."

-- President George W. Bush Speaking to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Corps Technical Support - New Bedford Portfield

NB Portfield Pilot is in the initial stage of coordination effort (kick-off meeting held 7 April 04). Anticipated Corps Role Includes:

- Navigational Dredging (O&M)
- Environmental Dredging (Sec 312)
- Environmental Restoration (Coastal Habitat)
- Streamlined Permitting Process for Portfield Projects



Corps Technical Support - Tampa Portfield

- Project planning
- Design & construction
- Ecosystem Restoration
- Permitting
- Navigational Dredging & Dredge material disposal
- Wave Energy Impact Modeling
- Removal of terrestrial Invasive plant species

Airport

Squalicum

Creek



US Army Corps of Engineers® Seattle District



















Potential Corps Support - Bellingham Portfield

Project planning
Design & construction
Ecosystem Restoration
Permitting
Navigational Dredging & Dredge material disposal (§204 WRDA 92 & §312 WRDA 90)
Potential funding sources:

Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration Funding (§544 WRDA 2000) FY06 Section 206 or 1135 projects (possible Congressional Add)



Achievements

 Coordination More Efficient and Effective "One Door to Federal Portfields Support" Established Each Agency's Efforts Better Leveraged

 Focused the Portfields Team on a Few Priorities that are Implement-able

 Better Aligned Federal Support With Portfields Priorities



Corps Portfields Challenges

- •Improve Stakeholders' Understanding of Congressional Authorization & Appropriation Processes
 - -- Reduce Stakeholder Frustration
- •Improve the Strategic Focus of the Portfield Priorities so Efforts Don't Become "Projects-Are-Us"
- Help Portfield Communities Think Regionally
- Improve Responsiveness to Stakeholders
- Better Leverage our Technology



Lesson Learned - Communicate Better

- Incorporate Communication into the Portfields Business Process.
- Be Accessible to our partners.
- Listen to all the Stakeholders Regarding Issues of Importance to them; Respect their Viewpoints; Seek Opportunities for Synergy.
- Communicate Early, Often, Clearly, Completely, Honestly.



Issues That Make The Case For Portfields Initiative

- Need for expanding understanding of the value of SUSTAINABLE port fields development to include economic/environmental & social elements.
- Need for expanding sources for portfields revitalization financing and revenues,
- Need for more efficient coordination of efforts, e.g., coordinating dredging and dredged material disposal with environmental considerations
- Coordinating resources for intermodal transportation in and around portfields.
- Enhancing community connection and access to waterfronts.